



Ottawa, Canada K1A 0S5

MAR 17 2016

Mr. Alistair MacGregor
Member of Parliament
Cowichan—Malahat—Langford
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

Dear Mr. MacGregor:

Thank you for your letter regarding the use of a site currently qualified under the British Columbia *Environmental Management Act*—Permit PR-105809 Cobble Hill Holdings Limited.

Your letter relays concerns expressed by your constituents and identifies three potential risks associated with the use of the permitted site within Public Services and Procurement Canada's contracts. Below are the strategies through which the Department mitigates these risks:

Environmental Risk

Public Services and Procurement Canada's procurement processes are conducted in accordance with Treasury Board guidelines through an open and transparent public tendering system. Included in each tender are standard terms and conditions that ensure the work is carried out in full compliance with all federal, provincial, as well as municipal laws and regulations applicable to the performance of the work.

As the disposal facility in question resides within provincial jurisdiction for overall environmental regulation, the federal government defers to the Province of British Columbia to ensure all applicable environmental criteria and standards are satisfied through the provincial permitting processes.

Project completion and schedule risk

Public Services and Procurement Canada considers contract management to be an essential element of the procurement process that protects the interests of Canada, while ensuring suppliers are being treated fairly. Through effective contract management, the Department detects problems early in order to minimize risks that could jeopardize project completion on schedule.

.../2

Public Services and Procurement Canada will continue to consider the unique risks of environmental remediation projects and maintain appropriate contract management oversight to minimize project completion and schedule risks.

Financial risk

With regard to financial risk, contract financial security requirements are included into environmental remediation agreements. This approach minimizes financial risk to the Crown should there be a need to replace a contractor or subcontractor.

While the Department has strategies in place to address the risks you mention, your concerns have been shared with the Pacific Regional Office to ensure a continued focus on risks within the remediation work of the federal government.

If your constituents have any additional questions or concerns, they can contact Sylvie Bérubé, Regional Director General, Pacific Region, at 604-666-6983 or at sylvie.berube@pwgsc-tpsgc.gc.ca.

I hope this information is helpful in addressing your constituents' concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Judy M. Foote". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke.

Judy M. Foote, PC, MP
Minister of Public Services and Procurement